Amendment to Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 7, replace the paragraph that begins at line 20 with the following paragraph, wherein modifications are indicated with underlining for additions and cross-outs for deletions:

Alternatively, the cutting element may also be composed of a plurality of wire ~~Segments~~ segments which are secured to thrust rods in mutually displaced relationship in the longitudinal direction of the hollow body, wherein the thrust rods are guided slidably in longitudinal grooves along the hollow body. In this embodiment of the invention, the wire ~~Segments~~ segments are so shaped that their projection onto a plane perpendicular to the longitudinal axis, together with the peripheral wall of the hollow body, forms a closed curve, wherein all wire segments are connected to the one terminal of the HF-voltage source and the counterpart electrode can be, in conventional manner, the hollow body or a separate external counterpart electrode.

On page 13, replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 with the following paragraph wherein modifications are indicated with underlining for additions and cross-outs for deletions, to delete an errant period following the "10":

Figures 5 and 6 show a surgical hollow probe I which in terms of its basic elements corresponds to the embodiment shown in Figures I to 4 and which also has a circular-cylindrical hollow body 2 with a distal tip 6, a longitudinal axis 3 and a hollow passage 8. As an alternative to the embodiment shown in Figures I to 4, in Figures 5 and 6 the cutting element 10 is in the form of a wire loop whose two ends 12 are each secured to a respective thrust rod 14. The thrust rods 14 are supported slidably in parallel longitudinal grooves 16. Disposed between the two longitudinal grooves 16 is the distal opening 20 which is defined by wall edges extending parallel to the longitudinal grooves 16. The distal opening 20 is closable by a closure 22 which is supported displaceably in the peripheral

direction on the inside surface of the hollow body 2. At their distal end, the two longitudinal grooves are connected by a slot 18 which extends perpendicularly to the longitudinal grooves 16 and the longitudinal axis 3, and which serves to provide that the cutting element 10, which can be formed from flexible wire, can be retracted into and extended from the hollow passage 8.